

AMENDMENT

U.S. Appln. No. 09/304,552

PHN 16,914

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Summary of the Rejections:

Claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious of Tapp (U.S. 5,657,076) in view of Johnson (U.S. 6,175,373).

It is alleged in the Office Action that Tapp discloses, *inter alia*, a security control system comprising at least one monitor (Fig. 1, item 36) for observing an image captured by one or more cameras, where the monitor with a PIP displays multi-video sources from cameras associated with a plurality of detectors. It is admitted that Tapp fails to repeatedly display a sequence formed by a plurality of images, but it is alleged that Johnson discloses the displaying of sequences from a buffer, and it is alleged that an artisan would have found it obvious to modify the PIP of Johnson into the display of Tapp to allow the user to view the desired event constant without rewinding tape or reloading images from a memory.

Applicants Traversal:

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It is respectfully submitted that there is no incentive to combine the teachings of Tapp and Johnson, and assuming *arguendo*, even if a person of ordinary skill in the art attempted to combine the teachings of the references, the combination would not have made any of the present claims obvious at the time of invention.

Johnson discloses a series of video frames (VF1 to VF3) are filled in one of three buffers B1 to B3, as a way to permit a live display with "non-genlocked" video. Rather than conventional systems having genlocked (synchronized) graphic display to the video source, Johnson discloses the use of three buffers to refresh the screen with the video frames. Considering that Johnson is disclosing a method for "live display" (column 2 , lines 18-25), it is respectfully submitted that the "refreshing" of the display is with live video from one of the video frames VF1 to VF3, which are dynamic. The monitor is not looping three video frames, and the reference should not be interpreted as repeatedly providing a display. What is actually occurring in Johnson is that the live feed goes to one of three video frames, and the repeating of steps (or discarding of frames, as the references discloses) is a continuous live feed being distributed to the buffers. Thus, the combination of Tapp and Johnson fails to teach the recording and repeated display of an image event, as Johnson is merely suggesting

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dividing a continuous live feed into three frames that are buffered, and either displayed or discarded. If there were a repeated display of an image event, Johnson would be concerned with the possibility that a video frame may be discarded.

Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of references fails to provide the disclosure, suggestion, or motivation that would have made the instant claims obvious. It is respectfully submitted that the Applicants teachings that are being used in an improper hindsight rejection as a basis for alleging that the combination provides this motivation to an artisan. The combination fails to provide any such suggestion, and the skill in the art at the time of the invention would not have gleaned anything from the combination of Tapp and Johnson so as to make any of the instant claims obvious.

In order to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, the rationale to modify or combine the prior art must be expressly or impliedly contained in the prior art or reasoned from knowledge generally available to a person of ordinary skill in the art (*In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988)). Applicants respectfully submit that such rationale is not present in the teachings of the references and thus the claims would not have been

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obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention.

With regard to the possibility that the references could have been combined to result in a modification of Johnson in the display of Tapp as alleged, Applicants respectfully submit that it was held by the Court of Appeals in the case of *In re Fritch*, 972 F.2d 1260, 1266, 23 USPQ 2d 1780, 1783-84 (Fed. Cir. 1992) that:

Obviousness cannot be established by combining the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention, absent some teaching or suggestion supporting the combination. Under section 103, teachings of references can be combined only if there is some suggestion or incentive to do so. Although couched in terms of combining teachings found in the prior art, the same inquiry must be carried out in the context of a purported obvious "modification" of the prior art. The mere fact that the prior art may be modified in the manner suggested by the Examiner does not make the modification obvious unless the prior art suggested the desirability of the modification.

In the present case, it is respectfully submitted that the teachings of the combination of references do not overcome the standard of establishing obviousness as exemplified in *Fritch*.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-6 should be withdrawn, and a Notice of allowance issued.

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For all the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all the present claims are patentable in view of the cited references. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to the undersigned firm's Deposit Account No. 11-1153.

Should the Examiner deem that there are any issues which may be best resolved by telephone communication, he is respectfully requested to telephone Applicants' undersigned Attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
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